

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claim rejections set forth in the Office communication dated April 5, 2007.

Summary

Claims 1 and 8 are currently amended. No new matter was added as a result of these amendments.

Claims 4 – 7 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 - 3 and 8 – 12 were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gerpheide et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,680,731) in view of Gerpheide (U.S. Patent No. 5,861,875).

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, that the other surface of the flexible substrate of the extension section is bonded to the reverse surface of a flattened portion. Moreover, claim 1 recites that the input operation is conducted by performing a bonding operation along the obverse surface of a curved portion. None of the cited references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an input device with this structure. In contrast to the disclosure of the cited references, by providing the input sensor on the reverse surface or a curved portion, the bonding operation can be performed along the obverse surface of the curved portion without viewing the input sensor from the outer surface. Additionally by bonding the extension section to a flattened portion that is continuously disposed from the curved portion, the entire flexible substrate, including the non-flexible circuit substrate can be bonded to the reverse surface of the curved portion.

Dependent claims 2 – 3 depend from allowable claim 1, so are allowable for at least this reason.

Independent Claim 8 recites features that are similar to allowable features of claim 1. Accordingly, Claim 8 is allowable for at least the same reasons as stated above. Therefore, Claim 8 is allowable over the cited references.

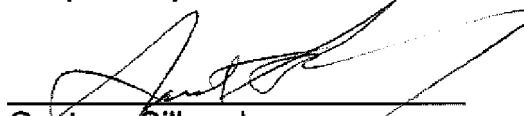
Dependent Claims 9 – 12 depend from an allowable base claim and are allowable for at least this reason.

Conclusion

For at least the reasons presented above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



Gustavo Siller, Jr.
Registration No. 32,305
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200